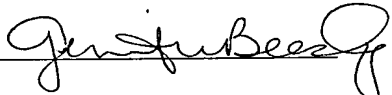


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : BARBE, Serge
Docket No. : 76.0833 US/PR
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<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10</p> <p>Date of Deposit: <u>January 11, 2006</u></p> <p>Express Mail No.: <u>ED 886401950 US</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail addressed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop PCT, Attn: PCT Legal, Commissioner for Patents, on the date indicated above.</p> <p align="right"><u>Jennifer Beasley</u> </p>

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Each section begins on a separate sheet in accordance with the revised format practice.